

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

-----231057 009890 /13

O 231040Z FEB 77

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4080

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0539

EXDIS

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV PFOR US WB UK FR UR

SUBJ: ATTEMPTED SUICIDE BY RUDOLPH HESS

1. AT 8:00 PM, EVENING OF FEBRUARY 22, DURING
CONFUSION WHEN GUARD WAS CHANGED HESS ATTEMPTED SUICIDE
BY CUTTING WRIST, FOREARM, AND ANKLE. WOUNDS WERE NOT
DEEP. FRENCH, WHO ARE IN CHARGE OF SPANDAU DURING
FEBRUARY, DISPATCHED DOCTOR WHO STITCHED UP WOUNDS.
HESS TOLD US GOVERNOR THAT AFTER THIRTY-FIVE YEARS
IN PRISON, HIS NERVES ARE SHOT AND HE NO LONGER CARES.

2. SPANDAU GOVERNORS MEETING NOW AMONG THEMSELVES, AND
WILL MEET LATER WITH DOCTORS. IMMEDIATE QUESTION IS
WHETHER DOCTORS WILL RECOMMEND THAT HESS BE REMOVED
TO BRITISH MILITARY HOSPITAL AS IN 1969 AND 1973 FOR
OBSERVATION. IN MEANTIME, HE IS UNDER OBSERVATION BY
SPANDAU GUARDS.

3. RE PRESS WE EXPECT EVENTUAL LEAK GIVEN NUMBER OF
PERSONS INVOLVED AS WELL AS VISITS FROM FAMILY AND
CORRESPONDENTS. IF STORY DOES LEAK, US PRESS SPOKESMAN
(CHAIRMAN) WILL TAKE QUESTION. WE BELIEVE HOWEVER THAT
PRESS SPOKESMAN WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE TO CONFIRM
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FACT OF SUICIDE ATTEMPT AND THEN STATE THAT HESS IS
UNDER MEDICAL CARE. WE ARE SEEKING CLEARANCE FOR
THIS GUIDANCE FROM BRITISH AND FRENCH.

4. FOR BONN: AMBASSADOR STOESSEL HAS BEEN INFORMED. GEORGE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEDICAL CARE, ALLEGATIONS, DEATHS, PRISONERS WELFARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USBERL00539
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770062-0664
Format: TEL
From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770215/aaaaanse.tel
Line Count: 60
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 397bc1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3246978
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ATTEMPTED SUICIDE BY RUDOLPH HESS
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, US, WB, UK, FR, UR, (HESS, RUDOLPH)
To: STATE BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/397bc1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
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